



## **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

TITLE	PAGE
Cover Letter	1
Independent Accountants' Report	3
Combined Statement of Cash Receipts, Cash Disbursements, and Changes in Fund Cash Balances – All Governmental Fund Types – For the Year Ended December 31, 2006	5
Combined Statement of Cash Receipts, Cash Disbursements, and Changes in Fund Cash Balances – All Governmental Fund Types – For the Year Ended December 31, 2005	6
Notes to the Financial Statements	7
Independent Accountants' Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Required by Government Auditing Standards	15
Schedule of Findings	17
Schedule of Prior Audit Findings	20





# Mary Taylor, CPA Auditor of State

Bloomfield Township Jackson County 3235 State Route 327 Jackson, Ohio 45640

#### To the Board of Trustees:

As you are aware, the Auditor of State's Office (AOS) must modify the *Independent Accountants' Report* we provide on your financial statements due to an interpretation from the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA). While AOS does not legally require your government to prepare financial statements pursuant to Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP), the AICPA interpretation requires auditors to formally acknowledge that you did not prepare your financial statements in accordance with GAAP. Our Report includes an adverse opinion relating to GAAP presentation and measurement requirements, but does not imply the amounts the statements present are misstated under the non-GAAP basis you follow. The AOS report also includes an opinion on the financial statements you prepared using the cash basis and financial statement format the AOS permits.

Mary Taylor, CPA Auditor of State

Mary Taylor

October 30, 2007

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# Mary Taylor, CPA Auditor of State

#### INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

Bloomfield Township Jackson County 3235 State Route 327 Jackson, Ohio 45640

#### To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Bloomfield Township, Jackson County, Ohio (the Township), as of and for the years ended December 31, 2006 and 2005. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Township's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to reasonably assure whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As described more fully in Note 1, the Township has prepared these financial statements using accounting practices the Auditor of State prescribes or permits. These practices differ from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). Although we cannot reasonably determine the effects on the financial statements of the variances between these regulatory accounting practices and GAAP, we presume they are material.

Instead of the combined funds the accompanying financial statements present, GAAP require presenting entity wide statements and also presenting the Township's larger (i.e., major) funds separately. While the Township does not follow GAAP, generally accepted auditing standards requires us to include the following paragraph if the statements do not substantially conform to GAAP presentation requirements. The Auditor of State permits, but does not require townships to reformat their statements. The Township has elected not to follow GAAP statement formatting requirements. The following paragraph does not imply the amounts reported are materially misstated under the accounting basis the Auditor of State permits. Our opinion on the fair presentation of the amounts reported pursuant to its non-GAAP basis is in the second following paragraph.

In our opinion, because of the effects of the matter discussed in the preceding two paragraphs, the financial statements referred to above for the years ended December 31, 2006 and 2005 do not present fairly, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the financial position of the Township as of December 31, 2006 and 2005, or its changes in financial position for the years then ended.

Bloomfield Township Jackson County Independent Accountants' Report Page 2

Also, in our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the combined fund cash balances of Bloomfield Township, Jackson County, Ohio, as of December 31, 2006 and 2005, and its combined cash receipts and disbursements for the years then ended on the accounting basis Note 1 describes.

The Township has not presented Management's Discussion and Analysis, which accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America has determined is necessary to supplement, although not required to be part of, the financial statements.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated October 30, 2007, on our consideration of the Township's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. While we did not opine on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance, that report describes the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance, and the results of that testing. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*. You should read it in conjunction with this report in assessing the results of our audit.

Mary Taylor, CPA Auditor of State

Mary Taylor

October 30, 2007

# COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2006

	Governmental Fund Types						Totals	
				Special	Capital		(Memorandum	
	G	eneral	F	Revenue	P	rojects		Only)
Cash Receipts:						_		
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$	27,010	\$	44,926	\$		\$	71,936
Intergovernmental		42,819		104,766		80,471		228,056
Earnings on Investments		73		502				575
Miscellaneous		337		600		813		1,750
Total Cash Receipts		70,239		150,794		81,284		302,317
Cash Disbursements:								
Current:								
General Government		52,218						52,218
Public Safety				28,184				28,184
Public Works				106,176				106,176
Health		6,130						6,130
Other						15,589		15,589
Capital Outlay						62,812		62,812
Debt Service:								
Redemption of Principal						9,757		9,757
Interest and Other Fiscal Charges						3,809		3,809
Total Cash Disbursements		58,348		134,360		91,967		284,675
Total Cash Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements		11,891		16,434		(10,683)		17,642
Other Financing Receipts/(Disbursements):								
Sale of Notes						62,812		62,812
Total Other Financing Receipts/(Disbursements)		0		0		62,812		62,812
Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements								
And Other Financing Disbursements		11,891		16,434		52,129		80,454
Fund Cash Balance, January 1		17,862		27,716		30,440		76,018
Fund Cash Balance, December 31	\$	29,753	\$	44,150	\$	82,569	\$	156,472

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement

## COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2005

	Governmental Fund Types						Totals	
	Spec		Special	ial Capi		(Mei	morandum	
	G	eneral	F	Revenue	F	Projects	Only)	
Cash Receipts:								
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$	23,164	\$	42,705	\$		\$	65,869
Intergovernmental		28,329		98,228		79,161		205,718
Earnings on Investments		52						52
Miscellaneous		489		1,477		1,200		3,166
Total Cash Receipts		52,034		142,410		80,361		274,805
Cash Disbursements:								
Current:								
General Government		52,651						52,651
Public Safety				32,214				32,214
Public Works				107,421				107,421
Health		6,750						6,750
Other						40,817		40,817
Debt Service:								
Redemption of Principal						28,610		28,610
Interest and Other Fiscal Charges						5,635		5,635
Total Cash Disbursements		59,401		139,635		75,062		274,098
Total Cash Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements		(7,367)		2,775		5,299		707
Fund Cash Balance, January 1 (Restated - See Note 2)		25,229		24,941		25,141		75,311
Fund Cash Balance, December 31	\$	17,862	\$	27,716	\$	30,440	\$	76,018

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2006 AND 2005

### 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

#### A. Description of the Entity

The constitution and laws of the State of Ohio establish the rights and privileges of Bloomfield Township, Jackson County (the Township), as a body corporate and politic. A publicly-elected three-member Board of Trustees directs the Township. The Township provides road and bridge maintenance, cemetery maintenance, and fire protection. The Township contracts with the Bloomfield Township Volunteer Fire Department to provide fire services.

The Township's management believes these financial statements present all activities for which the Township is financially accountable.

#### **B.** Accounting Basis

These financial statements follow the accounting basis the Auditor of State prescribes or permits. This basis is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements accounting basis. The Township recognizes receipts when received in cash rather than when earned, and recognizes disbursements when paid rather than when a liability is incurred. Budgetary presentations report budgetary expenditures when a commitment is made (i.e., when an encumbrance is approved).

These statements include adequate disclosure of material matters, as the Auditor of State prescribes or permits.

#### C. Fund Accounting

The Township uses fund accounting to segregate cash that is restricted as to use. The Township classifies its funds into the following types:

#### 1. General Fund

The General Fund reports all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

#### 2. Special Revenue Funds

These funds account for proceeds from specific sources (other than from private-purpose trusts or for capital projects) that are restricted to expenditure for specific purposes. The Township had the following significant Special Revenue Funds:

<u>Gasoline Tax Fund</u> – This fund receives gasoline tax money to pay for constructing, maintaining, and repairing Township roads.

<u>Fire Fund</u> – This fund receives property tax money to purchase fire equipment and provide fire protection services to residents of the Township.

#### 3. Capital Project Fund

This fund account for receipts restricted to acquiring or constructing major capital projects. The Township had the following Capital Project Fund:

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2006 AND 2005 (Continued)

#### 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

#### C. Fund Accounting (Continued)

### 2. Capital Project Fund (Continued)

<u>Sales Tax Permanent Fund</u> – This fund receives a portion of the monies collected for sales tax from the County Auditor for permanent improvement and repayment of debt relating to capital expenditures.

### D. Budgetary Process

The Ohio Revised Code requires that each fund be budgeted annually.

#### 1. Appropriations

Budgetary expenditures (that is, disbursements and encumbrances) may not exceed appropriations at the fund, function, object level of control, and appropriations may not exceed estimated resources. The Board of Trustees must annually approve appropriation measures and subsequent amendments. The County Budget Commission must also approve the annual appropriation measure. Appropriations lapse at year end.

#### 2. Estimated Resources

Estimated resources include estimates of cash to be received (budgeted receipts) plus cash as of January 1. The County Budget Commission must also approve estimated resources.

#### 3. Encumbrances

The Ohio Revised Code requires the Township to reserve (encumber) appropriations when individual commitments are made. The Township did not use the encumbrance method of accounting.

A summary of 2006 and 2005 budgetary activity appears in Note 4.

#### E. Property, Plant, and Equipment

The Township records disbursements for acquisitions of property, plant, and equipment when paid. The accompanying financial statements do not report these items as assets.

#### F. Accumulated Leave

In certain circumstances, such as upon leaving employment, employees are entitled to cash payments for unused leave. The financial statements do not include a liability for unpaid leave.

#### 2. Restatement of Fund Balance

For the year ended December 31, 2004, the Fiscal Officer incorrectly posted a voided check from prior years in the amount of \$837. This resulted in following fund balance restatement:

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2006 AND 2005 (Continued)

## 2. Restatement of Fund Balance (Continued)

	Fund E	Balance at	Rest	atement	Fund	Balance at
Governmental Funds: December 31, 2004		Ar	mount	Janu	ary 1, 2005	
General	\$	24 392	\$	837	\$	25 229

## 3. Equity in Pooled Cash

The Township maintains a cash pool all funds use. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes allowable deposits and investments. The carrying amount of cash at December 31 was as follows:

	2006	2005
Demand deposits	\$ 156,472	\$ 76,018

**Deposits:** Deposits are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or collateralized by the financial institution's public entity deposit pool.

## 4. Budgetary Activity

Budgetary activity for the years ending December 31, 2006 and 2005 follows:

2006 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts									
	В	udgeted		Actual					
Fund Type	Receipts		ts Receipts		Variance				
General	\$	50,021	\$	70,239	\$	20,218			
Special Revenue		141,376		150,794		9,418			
Capital Projects		80,361		144,096		63,735			
Total	\$	271,758	\$	365,129	\$	93,371			

2006 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures									
	App	Appropriation Budgetary							
Fund Type	Authority		Expenditures		V	ariance			
General	\$	67,883	\$	58,348	\$	9,535			
Special Revenue		169,090		134,360		34,730			
Capital Projects		110,798		91,167		19,631			
Total	\$	347,771	\$	283,875	\$	63,896			

2005 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts									
В		_							
Receipts		eceipts Receipts		Variance					
\$	54,161	\$	52,034	\$	(2,127)				
	137,392		142,410		5,018				
	83,524		80,361		(3,163)				
\$	275,077	\$	274,805	\$	(272)				
	8 \$	Budgeted Receipts \$ 54,161 137,392 83,524	Budgeted	Budgeted Receipts         Actual Receipts           \$ 54,161         \$ 52,034           137,392         142,410           83,524         80,361	Budgeted         Actual           Receipts         Receipts         V           \$ 54,161         \$ 52,034         \$           137,392         142,410         83,524           80,361         80,361         80,361				

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2006 AND 2005 (Continued)

#### 4. Budgetary Activity (Continued)

2005 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

	Appropriation		Ві	udgetary		
Fund Type	Authority		Expenditures		Variance	
General	\$	79,350	\$	59,401	\$	19,949
Special Revenue		162,329		139,635		22,694
Capital Projects		108,664		75,062		33,602
Total	\$	350,343	\$	274,098	\$	76,245

#### 5. Property Tax

Real property taxes become a lien on January 1 preceding the October 1 date for which the Trustees adopted tax rates. The State Board of Tax Equalization adjusts these rates for inflation. Property taxes are also reduced for applicable homestead and rollback deductions. The financial statements include homestead and rollback amounts the State pays as Intergovernmental Receipts. Payments are due to the County by December 31. If the property owner elects to pay semiannually, the first half is due December 31. The second half payment is due the following June 20.

Public utilities are also taxed on personal and real property located within the Township.

Tangible personal property tax is assessed by the property owners, who must file a list of such property to the County by each April 30.

The County is responsible for assessing property, and for billing, collecting, and distributing all property taxes on behalf of the Township.

#### 6. Debt

Debt outstanding at December 31, 2006 was as follows:

General Obligation Notes:	F	Principal	Interest Rate
Tractor Building Improvements Total	\$	62,813 80,867 143,680	5.25% 4.19%

The Township issued general obligation notes to finance the purchase of a tractor and building improvements to the Township Hall/Garage. The Township's full faith and credit is pledged for repayment.

Amortization of the above debt, including interest, is scheduled as follows:

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2006 AND 2005 (Continued)

#### 6. Debt (Continued)

		Е	Building
Year Ending December 31:	 Tractor	Imp	rovements
2007	\$ 14,639	\$	13,566
2008	14,639		13,566
2009	14,639		13,566
2010	14,639		13,566
2011	14,639		13,566
2012-2013			27,132
	\$ 73,195	\$	94,962

#### 7. Retirement System

The Township employees belong to the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS). OPERS is cost-sharing, multiple-employer plan. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes these plans' benefits, which include postretirement healthcare and survivor and disability benefits.

The Ohio Revised Code also prescribes contribution rates. For 2006 and 2005, OPERS members contributed 9% and 8.5%, respectively, of their gross salaries and the Township contributed an amount equal to 13.70% and 13.55%, respectively, of participants' gross salaries. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2006.

#### 8. Risk Management

The Township is exposed to various risks of property and casualty losses, and injuries to employees.

The Township insures against injuries to employees through the Ohio Bureau of Worker's Compensation.

The Township belongs to the Ohio Township Association Risk Management Authority (OTARMA), a risk-sharing pool available to Ohio townships. OTARMA provides property and casualty coverage for its members. OTARMA is a member of the American Public Entity Excess Pool (APEEP). Member governments pay annual contributions to fund OTARMA. OTARMA pays judgments, settlements and other expenses resulting from covered claims that exceed the members' deductibles.

#### Casualty Coverage

For an occurrence prior to January 1, 2006 OTARMA retains casualty risks up to \$250,000 per occurrence, including claim adjustment expenses. OTARMA pays a percentage of its contributions to APEEP. APEEP reinsures claims exceeding \$250,000, up to \$1,750,000 per claim and \$10,000,000 in the aggregate per year. For an occurrence on or subsequent to January 1, 2006, the Pool retains casualty risk up to \$350,000 per occurrence, including loss adjustment expenses. Claims exceeding \$350,000 are reinsured with APEEP in an amount not to exceed \$2,650,000 for each claim and \$10,000,000 in the aggregate per year. Governments can elect up to \$10,000,000 in additional coverage with the General Reinsurance Corporation, through contracts with OTARMA.

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2006 AND 2005 (Continued)

#### 8. Risk Management (Continued)

If losses exhaust OTARMA's retained earnings, APEEP provides excess of funds available coverage up to \$5,000,000 per year, subject to a per-claim limit of \$2,000,000 (for claims prior to January 1, 2006) or \$3,000,000 (for claims on or after January 1, 2006) as noted above.

#### **Property Coverage**

Through 2004, OTARMA retained property risks, including automobile physical damage, up to \$100,000 on any specific loss in any one occurrence. The Travelers Indemnity Company reinsured losses exceeding \$100,000 up to \$500 million per occurrence.

Beginning in 2005, Travelers reinsures specific losses exceeding \$250,000 up to \$600 million per occurrence. APEEP reinsures members for specific losses exceeding \$100,000 up to \$250,000 per occurrence, subject to an annual aggregate loss payment. Travelers provides aggregate stoploss coverage based upon the combined members' total insurable values. If the stop loss is reached by payment of losses between \$100,000 and \$250,000, Travelers will reinsure specific losses exceeding \$100,000 up to their \$600 million per occurrence limit. The aggregate stop-loss limit for 2006 was \$1,901,127.

The aforementioned casualty and property reinsurance agreements do not discharge OTARMA's primary liability for claims payments on covered losses. Claims exceeding coverage limits are the obligation of the respective government.

Property and casualty settlements did not exceed insurance coverage for the past three fiscal years.

#### Financial Position

OTARMA's financial statements (audited by other accountants) conform with generally accepted accounting principles, and reported the following assets, liabilities and retained earnings at December 31, 2006 and 2005.

Casualty Coverage	2006	2005	
Assets Liabilities	\$ 32,031,312 (11,443,952)	\$ 30,485,638 (12,344,576)	
Retained Earnings	\$ 20,587,360	\$ 18,141,062	
Property Coverage	2006	2005	
Assets Liabilities	\$ 10,010,963 (676,709)	\$ 9,177,796 (1,406,031)	

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2006 AND 2005 (Continued)

#### 8. Risk Management (Continued)

At December 31, 2006 and 2005, respectively, casualty coverage liabilities noted above include approximately \$10.8 million and \$11.6 million of estimated incurred claims payable. The Casualty Coverage assets and retained earnings above also include approximately \$10.8 million and \$11.6 million of unpaid claims to be billed to approximately 958 member governments in the future, as of December 31, 2006 and 2005, respectively. These amounts will be included in future contributions from members when the related claims are due for payment. The Township's share of these unpaid claims collectible in future years is approximately \$8,000. This payable includes the subsequent year's contribution due if the Township terminates participation, as described in the last paragraph below.

Based on discussions with OTARMA, the expected rates OTARMA charges to compute member contributions, which are used to pay claims as they become due, are not expected to change significantly from those used to determine the historical contributions detailed below. By contract, the annual liability of each member is limited to the amount of financial contributions required to be made to OTARMA for each year of membership.

Contributions to OTARMA				
2004	\$	4,154		
2005	\$	4,154		
2006	\$	4,374		

After completing one year of membership, members may withdraw on each anniversary of the date they joined OTARMA provided they give written notice to OTARMA 60 days in advance of the anniversary date. Upon withdrawal, members are eligible for a full or partial refund of their capital contributions, minus the subsequent year's budgetary contribution. Withdrawing members have no other future obligation to the pool. Also upon withdrawal, payments for all casualty claims and claim expenses become the sole responsibility of the withdrawing member, regardless of whether a claim occurred or was reported prior to the withdrawal.

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# Mary Taylor, CPA Auditor of State

# INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS REQUIRED BY GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

Bloomfield Township Jackson County 3235 State Route 327 Jackson, Ohio 45640

#### To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the financial statements of Bloomfield Township, Jackson County, Ohio (the Township), as of and for the years ended December 31, 2006 and 2005, and have issued our report thereon dated October 30, 2007, wherein we noted the Township followed accounting practices the Auditor of State prescribes rather than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to reasonably assure whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

### **Internal Control Over Financial Reporting**

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Township's internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing our audit procedures for expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not to opine on the effectiveness of the Township's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we have not opined on the effectiveness of the Township's internal control over financial reporting.

Our consideration of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the preceding paragraph and would not necessarily identify all deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that might be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. However, as discussed below, we identified certain deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that we consider significant deficiencies.

A control deficiency exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect misstatements on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a control deficiency, or combination of control deficiencies, that adversely affects the Township's ability to initiate, authorize, record, process, or report financial data reliably in accordance with its applicable accounting basis, such that there is more than a remote likelihood that the Township's internal control will not prevent or detect a more-than-inconsequential financial statement misstatement.

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Bloomfield Township
Jackson County
Independent Accountants' Report on Internal Control Over
Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters
Required by Government Auditing Standards
Page 2

We consider the following deficiencies described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings to be significant deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting: 2006-001 and 2006-002.

A material weakness is a significant deficiency, or combination of significant deficiencies resulting in more than a remote likelihood that the Township's internal control will not prevent or detect a material financial statement misstatement.

Our consideration of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and would not necessarily identify all deficiencies in the internal control that might be significant deficiencies and, accordingly, would not necessarily disclose all significant deficiencies that are also material weaknesses. However, of the significant deficiencies described above, we believe finding number 2006-001 is also material weaknesses.

We noted certain internal control matters that we reported to the Township's management in a separate letter dated October 30, 2007.

#### **Compliance and Other Matters**

As part of reasonably assuring whether the Township's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we tested its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could directly and materially affect the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and accordingly, we do not express an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed instances of noncompliance or other matters we must report under *Government Auditing Standards*, which are described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings as items 2006-001 and 2006-002.

We also noted certain noncompliance or other matters not requiring inclusion in this report that we reported to the Township's management in a separate letter dated October 30, 2007.

The Township's responses to the findings identified in our audit are described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings. We did not audit the Township's responses and, accordingly, we express no opinion on them.

We intend this report solely for the information and use of management and the Board of Trustees. We intend it for no one other than these specified parties.

Mary Taylor, CPA Auditor of State

Mary Taylor

October 30, 2007

## SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2006 AND 2005

# 1. FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS

#### **FINDING NUMBER 2006-001**

#### **Noncompliance Citation and Material Weakness**

Ohio Admin. Code Section 117-2-02 states that all local public offices shall maintain an accounting system and accounting records sufficient to enable the public office to identify, assemble, analyze, classify, record and report its transactions, maintain accountability for related assets, document compliance with finance-related legal and contractual requirements and prepare financial statements required by rule 117-2-03 of the Administrative Code. All local public offices may maintain accounting records in a manual or computerized format. The records used should be based on the nature of operations and services the public office provides, and should consider the degree of automation and other factors. Such records should include the following:

- (1) Cash journal, which typically contains the following information: The amount, date, receipt number, check number, account code, purchase order number, and any other information necessary to properly classify the transaction.
- (2) Receipts ledger, which typically assembles and classifies receipts into separate accounts for each type of receipt of each fund the public office uses. The amount, date, name of the payor, purpose, receipt number, and other information required for the transactions can be recorded on this ledger.
- (3) Appropriation ledger, which may assemble and classify disbursements or expenditure/expenses into separate accounts for, at a minimum, each account listed in the appropriation resolution. The amount, fund, date, check number, purchase order number, encumbrance amount, unencumbered balance, amount of disbursement, and any other information required may be entered in the appropriate columns

The Fiscal Officer did not maintain an appropriation ledger or a receipts ledger during the audit period. These two records aid in monitoring financial information including budget versus actual receipts and expenditures. Since instances of estimated receipts exceeding actual receipts and expenditures exceeding appropriations were noted in the current audit period, these ledgers could be used as a tool to ensure budgetary compliance.

We recommend the Fiscal Officer maintain an appropriation ledger and a receipts ledger to help ensure budgetary compliance.

**Official's Response:** The Fiscal Officer stated that a cash journal and a receipts ledger has since been set up.

#### FINDING NUMBER 2006-002

#### **Noncompliance Citation and Significant Deficiency**

Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.41(D)(1) prohibits a subdivision or taxing entity from making any contract or ordering any expenditure of money unless a certificate signed by the Fiscal Officer is attached thereto. The Fiscal Officer must certify that the amount required to meet any such contract or expenditure has been lawfully appropriated and is in the treasury, or is in the process of collection to the credit of an appropriate fund free from any previous encumbrance.

## SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2006 AND 2005 (Continued)

# 1. FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS (Continued)

# FINDING NUMBER 2006-002 (Continued)

# Noncompliance Citation and Significant Deficiency - Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.41(D)(1) (Continued)

There are several exceptions to the standard requirement stated above that a Fiscal Officer's certificate must be obtained prior to a subdivision or taxing authority entering into a contract or order involving the expenditure of money. The <u>main</u> exceptions are: "then and now" certificates, blanket certificates, and super blanket certificates, which are provided for in Sections 5705.41(D)(1) and 5705.41(D)(3), respectively, of the Ohio Revised Code.

- 1. "Then and Now" certificate If the Fiscal Officer can certify that both at the time that the contract or order was made ("then"), and at the time that the Fiscal Officer is completing the certification ("now"), that sufficient funds were available or in the process of collection, to the credit of a proper fund, properly appropriated and free from any previous encumbrance, the Township can authorize the drawing of a warrant for the payment of the amount due. The Township has thirty days from the receipt of the "then and now" certificate to approve payment by resolution.
  - Amounts of less than \$3,000 may be paid by the Fiscal Officer without a resolution or ordinance upon completion of the "then and now" certificate, provided that the expenditure is otherwise lawful. This does not eliminate any otherwise applicable requirement for approval of expenditures by the Township.
- 2. <u>Blanket Certificate</u> Fiscal Officers may prepare "blanket" certificates for a certain sum of money not in excess of an amount established by resolution or ordinance adopted by a majority of the members of the legislative authority against any specific line item account over a period not running beyond the end of the current fiscal year. The blanket certificates may, but need not, be limited to a specific vendor. Only one blanket certificate may be outstanding at one particular time for any one particular line item appropriation.
- 3. <u>Super Blanket Certificate</u> The Township may also make expenditures and contracts for any amount from a specific line-item appropriation account in a specified fund upon certification of the Fiscal Officer for most professional services, fuel, oil, food items, and any other specific recurring and reasonably predictable operating expense. This certification is not to extend beyond the current year. More than one super blanket certificate may be outstanding at a particular time for any line item appropriation.

The Township did not properly certify the availability of funds prior to purchase commitment for 100 percent of the expenditures tested in 2005 and 2006, and there was no evidence that the Township followed the aforementioned exceptions. Failure to properly certify the availability of funds can result in overspending funds and negative cash fund balances.

Unless the exceptions noted above are used, prior certification is not only required by statute but is a key control in the disbursement process to assure that purchase commitments receive prior approval. To improve controls over disbursements and to help reduce the possibility of the Township's funds exceeding budgetary spending limitations, we recommend the Fiscal Officer certify that the funds are or will be available prior to obligation by the Township. When prior certification is not possible, "then and now" certification should be used.

## SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2006 AND 2005 (Continued)

# 1. FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS (Continued)

# FINDING NUMBER 2006-002 (Continued)

Noncompliance Citation and Significant Deficiency - Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.41(D)(1) (Continued)

We recommend the Township certify purchases to which Section 5705.41(D) applies. The most convenient certification method is to use purchase orders that include the certification language Section 5705.41(D) requires to authorize disbursements. The Fiscal Officer should sign the certification at the time the Township incurs a commitment, and only when the requirements of Section 5705.41(D) are satisfied. The Fiscal Officer should post approved purchase commitments to the proper appropriation code, to reduce the available appropriation.

Official's Response: The officials chose not to respond to this finding.

## SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2006 AND 2005

Finding Number	Finding Summary	Fully Corrected?	Not Corrected, Partially Corrected; Significantly Different Corrective Action Taken; or Finding No Longer Valid; <i>Explain</i>
2004-001	A material non-compliance citation was issued under Ohio Admin. Code Section 117-2-02 for not maintaining sufficient accounting records during 2004 and 2003.	No	Not Corrected; Reissued in current Schedule of Findings as 2006-001.
2004-002	A material non-compliance citation was issued under Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.41(D)(1) for funds not being encumbered prior to purchase commitment during 2004 and 2003.	No	Not Corrected; Reissued in current Schedule of Findings as 2006-002.



# Mary Taylor, CPA Auditor of State

#### **BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP**

#### **JACKSON COUNTY**

#### **CLERK'S CERTIFICATION**

This is a true and correct copy of the report which is required to be filed in the Office of the Auditor of State pursuant to Section 117.26, Revised Code, and which is filed in Columbus, Ohio.

**CLERK OF THE BUREAU** 

Susan Babbitt

CERTIFIED DECEMBER 13, 2007